

**Crane, Paula**

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**From:** John A Hawkinson <jhawk@mit.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 21, 2015 7:01 PM  
**To:** Crane, Paula  
**Subject:** My public comment remarks as-drafted

Hi, Paula:

Here are my remarks as drafted. I think there were 1 or 2 small departures.

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On the CALENDAR, Unfinished Biz #4, the open data ordinance. I had intended to speak with forceful advocacy for Councillor Mazen's 4 amendments, but given that Manager's Agenda #16 states he has no objection to the proposed changes, I'm sure you'll approve them with flying colors. Thank you especially to Council Mazen and Councillor Cheung for your work on this issue.

Therefore, I'd like to briefly address 2 other items.

ON PO14, the roundtables, I am concerned. I've for some time felt that if you choose to have private roundtable meetings without public webcasts, they have no place replacing Council meetings. Either schedule them as special meetings of the Council that are telecast and consider taking up any truly urgent business at those times, or schedule them on a day other than Monday and do not cancel a Council meeting for them. I suggest you reconsider this order and come back with an altered proposal.

On PO#5, please do support it. Please do support H3665, Rep. Kocot's revision to the public records bill. It's a valuable increase in transparency. (It happens to be terribly flawed, but less flawed than the current law.) You might also consider having the City follow Governor Baker's example, pursuant to his July 30 announcement, where he set policy for his administration:

. Tell requesters within 5 days if there will be a substantial delay. Waive fees for requests less than 4 hours, and cap charges at \$25/hour.

. Affirmatively post frequently-requested records and records of particular public interest. That's really "open data" and you're already doing that, and about to make it better with the ordinance. Keep up the good work!

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 John Hawkinson

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